

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing ~~an electronics and appliances a~~ supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
 - a) in a supply chain having multiple supply chain participants comprising independent suppliers, independent distributors, independent sales outlets, and an independent supply chain manager that are connected by a supply chain management framework computer system, receiving a grant of authority to the independent supply chain manager to negotiate agreements between a selling supply chain participant and the independent supply chain manager on behalf of the buying supply chain participant
 - b) the independent supply chain manager electronically negotiating an agreement between one of the buying supply chain participant and one of the selling supply chain participants;
 - c) a supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of the independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets of an ~~electronics and appliances~~ the supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of ~~electronics and appliances~~ comprising amounts of products sold by the independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets which data are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent sales outlets utilizing at least one associated independent distributor and independent supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent sales outlet;
 - d) a supply chain computer parsing the data from a plurality of the independent sales outlets by the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet supplying the data;
 - e) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering ~~electronics~~

~~and appliances~~ components of the products and/or the products from a the at least one independent electronics and appliances distributor associated with the respective independent outlet supplying the data of the electronics and appliances supply chain;

f) transmitting the parsed data to the independent electronics and appliances distributor associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data was received of the electronics and appliances supply chain utilizing the network;

g) transmitting the parsed data to ~~an~~ the independent electronics and appliances supplier associated with the sales outlet from which the data was received of the electronics and appliances supply chain utilizing the network; and

h) the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the electronics and appliances supply chain utilizing the data; and

i) the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the data is made accessible to the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier via a network-based interface.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, and the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for managing ~~an electronics and appliances a~~ supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:

in a supply chain having multiple supply chain participants comprising independent suppliers, independent distributors, independent sales outlets, and an independent supply chain manager that are connected by a supply chain management framework computer system, receiving a grant of authority to the independent supply chain manager to negotiate agreements between a selling supply chain participant and the independent supply chain manager on behalf of the buying supply chain participant; the independent supply chain manager electronically negotiating an agreement between one of the buying supply chain participant and one of the selling supply chain participants; wherein the supply chain management framework computer system comprises

an electronic storage; and

a set of processors that use the electronic storage and include among them the following logic elements

a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of the independent electronics and appliances sales outlets of an electronics and appliances the supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of electronics and appliances comprising amounts of products sold by the independent electronics and appliances sales outlets which data are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent sales outlets utilizing at least one associated independent distributor and independent supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent sales outlet;

b) logic for a supply chain computer parsing the data from a plurality of the independent sales outlets by the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet supplying the data;

c) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering electronics and appliances components of the products and/or the products from an the at least one independent electronics and appliances distributor associated with the respective

independent outlet supplying the data of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain;

d) logic for transmitting the parsed data to the independent electronics and appliances distributor associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data was received of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the network;

e) logic for transmitting the parsed data to ~~an~~ the independent electronics and appliances supplier associated with the sales outlet from which the data was received of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the network; and

f) logic for the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the data; and

h) logic for the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7~~8~~, wherein the data is made accessible to the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier via a network-based interface.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, and the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for managing ~~an~~ electronics and appliances a supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:

in a supply chain having multiple supply chain participants comprising independent suppliers, independent distributors, independent sales outlets, and an independent supply chain manager that are connected by a supply chain management framework computer system, receiving a grant of authority to the independent supply chain manager to negotiate agreements between a selling supply chain participant and the independent supply chain manager on behalf of the buying supply chain participant; the independent supply chain manager negotiating an agreement between one of the buying supply chain participant and one of the selling supply chain participants;

a set of computer usable media having computer readable program code embodied among them to be executed by a computer, the computer readable program code comprising

a) computer code for a supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of the independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets of an ~~electronics and appliances~~ the supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of ~~electronics and appliances~~ comprising amounts of products sold by the independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets which data are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent sales outlets utilizing at least one associated independent distributor and independent supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent sales outlet;

b) computer code for a supply chain computer parsing the data from a plurality of the independent sales outlets by the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet supplying the data;

c) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering ~~electronics and appliances~~ components of the products and/or the products from an the at least one independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor associated with the respective independent outlet supplying the data of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain;

d) computer code for transmitting the parsed data to the independent ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data

was received of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the network;

e) computer code for transmitting the parsed data to ~~an~~ the independent electronics and appliances supplier associated with the sales outlet from which the data was received of the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the network; ~~and~~

f) computer code for the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supply chain utilizing the data; and

h) computer code for the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent distributor and the at least one independent supplier associated with the independent sales outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13-14, wherein the data is made accessible to the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier via a network-based interface.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the Internet.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the ~~electronics and appliances~~ sales outlets, the ~~electronics and appliances~~ distributor, and the ~~electronics and appliances~~ supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

19. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are electronics and appliances sales outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an electronics and appliances distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an electronics and appliances supplier.

20. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are electronics and appliances sales outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an electronics and appliances distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an electronics and appliances supplier.

21. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are electronics and appliances sales outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an electronics and appliances distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an electronics and appliances supplier.

22. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are health and personal care outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a health and personal care products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a health and personal care products supplier.

23. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are health and personal care outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a health and personal care products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a health and personal care products supplier.

24. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are health and personal care outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a health and personal care products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a health and personal care products supplier.

25. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are transportation equipment outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a transportation equipment distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a transportation equipment supplier.

26. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are transportation equipment outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a transportation equipment distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a transportation equipment

supplier.

27. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are transportation equipment outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a transportation equipment distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a transportation equipment supplier.

28. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are home products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a home products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a home products supplier.

29. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are home products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a home products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a home products supplier.

30. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are home products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a home products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a home products supplier.

31. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are food and beverage outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a food and beverage distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a food and beverage supplier.

32. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are food and beverage outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a food and beverage distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a food and beverage supplier.

33. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are food and beverage outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a food and beverage distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a food and beverage supplier.

34. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are machinery outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a machinery distributor and the

at least one independent supplier is a machinery supplier.

35. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are machinery outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a machinery distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a machinery supplier.

36. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are machinery outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a machinery distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a machinery supplier.

37. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are sporting goods outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a sporting goods distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a sporting goods supplier.

38. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are sporting goods outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a sporting goods distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a sporting goods supplier.

39. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are sporting goods outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a sporting goods distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a sporting goods supplier.

40. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are chemicals outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a chemicals distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a chemicals supplier.

41. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are chemicals outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a chemicals distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a chemicals supplier.

42. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are chemicals outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a chemicals distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a chemicals supplier.

43. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are department store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a department store distributor.

44. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are department store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a department store distributor.

45. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are department store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a department store distributor.

46. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are office products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an office products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an office products supplier.

47. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are office products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an office products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an office products supplier.

48. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are office products outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an office products distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an office products supplier.

49. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are gas station outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a gas station distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a gas station supplier.

50. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are gas station outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a gas station distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a gas station supplier.

51. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are gas station outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a gas station

distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a gas station supplier.

52. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are convenience store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a convenience store distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a convenience store supplier.

53. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are convenience store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a convenience store distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a convenience store supplier.

54. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are convenience store outlets, the at least one independent distributor is a convenience store distributor and the at least one independent supplier is a convenience store supplier.

55. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are entertainment media outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an entertainment media distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an entertainment media supplier.

56. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are entertainment media outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an entertainment media distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an entertainment media supplier.

57. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are entertainment media outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an entertainment media distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an entertainment media supplier.

58. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the sales outlets are accommodation outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an accommodation distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an accommodation supplier.

59. (New) The system as defined in claim 7, wherein the sales outlets are accommodation outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an accommodation

distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an accommodation supplier.

60. (New) The computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the sales outlets are accommodation outlets, the at least one independent distributor is an accommodation distributor and the at least one independent supplier is an accommodation supplier.